



Press Release

National
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Service

In Cooperation with the Louisiana Department of AgricultureLouisiana Field Office · 5825 Florida Blvd · Baton Rouge, LA 70806 · (225) 922-1362 · www.nass.usda.gov/la

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Record Yields Expected for Rice and Sorghum

“Louisiana’s 2010 rice and sorghum crops are expected to set record yields for the state, while the soybean yield will be the second highest yield on record, if realized,” said Nathan Crisp, Director of the Louisiana Field Office of the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. “Although dry conditions prevailed early in the growing season, much-needed rainfall was received across the state, improving crop conditions,” Crisp added.

Louisiana **rice** production is forecast at 35.5 million cwt, up 22 percent from 2009. Rice acreage for harvest is forecast at 555,000 acres, up 91,000 acres from the 2009 crop. Yield per acre is forecast at 6,400 pounds, up 100 pounds from last year. If realized, this will be the second consecutive year, and the third time in four years, in which the state set a new rice yield record. U.S. **rice** production is forecast at 245.9 million cwt, up 12 percent from last year.

Sorghum production is estimated at 8.5 million bushels in the state, up 59 percent from 2009. Acreage to be harvested for grain is forecast at 85,000 acres, up 20,000 acres from last year. Yield is forecast at 100 bushels per acre, up 18 bushels from last year. If realized, this will be the highest yield on record in the state. U.S. production for **sorghum** is forecast at 383.4 million bushels, up slightly from last year.

Soybean production is expected to total 40.0 million bushels in Louisiana, up nine percent from 2009. An estimated 1.0 million acres will be harvested, up 60,000 acres from 2009. Yield is forecast at 40 bushels per acre, up one bushel from last year’s yield. U.S. **soybean** production is forecast at a record high 3.4 billion bushels, up two percent from last year.

Louisiana’s **corn** production is forecast at 72.0 million bushels, down 11 percent from a year ago. An estimated 480,000 acres will be harvested for grain, down 130,000 acres from a year ago. Yield per acre, at 150 bushels, is up 18 bushels from the previous year. U.S. **corn** production is forecast at a record high 13.4 billion bushels, up two percent from the previous record set in 2009.

Louisiana’s **cotton** production is expected to total 390,000 bales, up 12 percent from last year’s crop. An estimated 225,000 acres are expected to be harvested, unchanged from last year. At 832 pounds, the yield per acre forecast is up 87 pounds from 2009. **Upland cotton** production for the U.S. is forecast at 18 million bales, 53 percent above 2009.

The Louisiana **sugarcane** crop is estimated at 12.9 million net tons, down six percent from last year. Acreage expected for harvest (sugar and seed) is 415,000 acres, down 10,000 acres from 2009. Yield is forecast at 31 net tons per acre, down 1.2 tons from last year. U.S. production of **sugarcane** for sugar and seed in 2010 is forecast at 30.3 million net tons, down fractionally from 2009.

Louisiana production of **all hay** is estimated at 1.3 million tons, up 23 percent from last year. Acreage for harvest is forecast at 410,000 acres, up 30,000 acres from 2009. Yield, at 3.2 tons per acre, is up .4 ton from last year. If realized, this will be the highest yield on record in the state. U.S. **all hay** production is forecast at 153.9 million tons, up four percent from 2009.